

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT COLLECTION

NEWSLETTERS & NEWSPAPERS

BOX 1 OF 1

FOLDER 21

FIST THE MAHWAH

A WIFE SPEAKS OUT

I am the wife of one of the workers at Ford Motor Co. I feel that the way they treat the men at the plant isn't right. They are treated as though they were slaves. They aren't given a chance to express themselves, and when and if they have enough courage to stand up for their rights, they are either suspended for a few days and if the men say anything about the way they feel about this they have the Mahwah Police, come up and put them away until they pay their fine. Now, I don't think this is right because, let's suppose your husband leaves the house with just enough money for lunch break and carfare, they call the police on him and he

doesn't have enough money for the fine. You are a wife just like me. You're expecting your husband to come home and he doesn't show up. What is the first thing that will come to your mind? Something must have happened to him. while all the time he's sitting up in jail, because he doesn't have enough money to bail himself out.

Another thing I feel is wrong the men sometimes have to be out of work for legitimate reasons, one of them is he might get sick and can't help but stay out, another reason is someone in the family might get sick, or he just has to take care of someone very import-

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* *****
* WE FINALLY HAVE A PLACE YOU
* CAN WRITE TO US AT-
*
* THE FIST
* P.O. BOX 2994
* G.P.O., NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.
* 10001
*
* -WRITE TO US, Tell
* us what you think about the problems in the plant, city, country or world. Tell us about your line, that foreman or company man who's bothering you. Tell us if you or anyone gets hurt, suspended, laidoff or fired.
* All letters kept confidential, names not used without permission unless widely and publicly known.
* *****

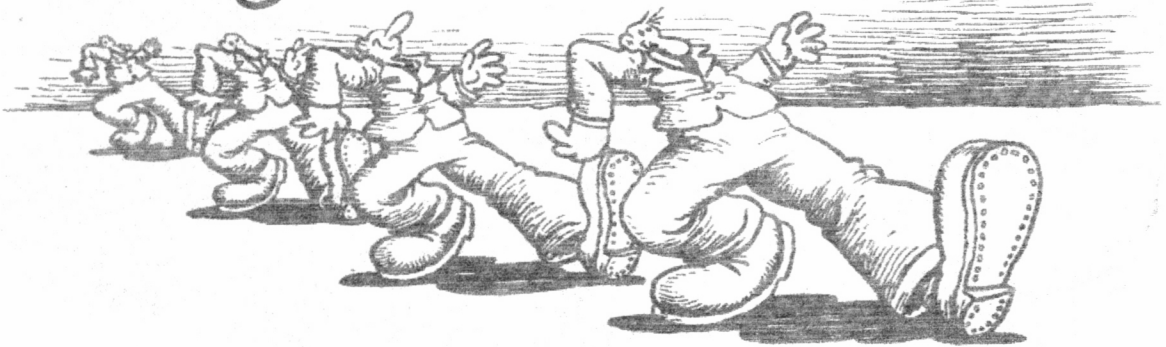




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Keep on Truckin'..



Every summer, around changeover time, these loudmouthed asskissers (known as "foremen") get the word they're switched around from night to day, or day to night. Dayshift--- be forewarned (in case you forget). These are the FISTS first annual CRUDDIEST FOREMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD. Workers on Dayshift, if you have opinions on the cruddiest, workingest, most racist, unfair and loudmouthed asskissers now on nights, send them to the Fist, P.O. Box 2994 General Post Office, N.Y. and we will publish them next month.

TRIM: Truckin' Truckmeyer.

Mr. Truckmeyer likes to call everyone "son ." He threatens you with a trip to the office for sitting in the racks, or on boxes, which he calls "ruining company stock" or destroying company property. Once his ingrate super caught him drinking on the job and he was sent home (but for one night only.) When tools disappear from his section at lunchtime he is known to blame his own men, and begins collecting tools.

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ends

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Once he even put a lock on them, only to come back after lunch unable to open his locked cabinet with all the tools inside. Someone had burned a screw into the lock and Truck was in trouble. Maintenance was sent for and opened up the cabinet with a torch but not before Trucks disregard for the men had left him running way down into the hole. Then there was the time he was riding everybody's ass on the end on line 2 and all his men messed up the work so bad they were called into the office to find out what the problem was. To a man they answered **TRUCKMEYER!** Now he's on the beginning of line 2. **WATCH HIM.** He tries to work every job. He'll use abusive language and curse you if you let him get away with it. **FORCE YOUR COMMITTEEMAN** to write him up.

(In Trim, Truck just beat out Nese, Sneaky, Lying Vic Krysmouski, Herbie Small and Irv "Pigash" who tried to frame Kevin Petter. Senny, who was knifed in the parking lot a short time after beginning as fere-man, Yeung, ambitious Harry Grey who tries to psych out young, white workers with lines about what the colored guy on dayshift can do ... while the Ford Motor Company is adding work to the job no matter what damn color you are.)

NEXT ISSUE: CHASSIS AND BODY SHOP, THE CRUDDIEST FOREMEN OF THE YEAR.

This paper is written and put out by workers at the Ford Assembly Plant in Monroeville, New Jersey. The paper is being handed out by friends to protect our jobs.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe the working class must organize to take the control of their own lives out of the hands of the rich and begin now to wage militant struggles to better the conditions of their lives and work. We must overcome the divisions in our ranks such as racism, white supremacy, male supremacy, supremacy of one nation over another, to be better human beings and better wage a winning struggle.

FIGHT, FAIL. FIGHT AGAIN, FAIL AGAIN, FIGHT ON TO VICTORY!

THE FIST

"If our people fight one tribe at a time all will be killed. They can cut off all our fingers one by one. But if we join together we will make a powerful fist."
--Little Turtle, Miami Indians

WE CAN WIN

Harassment by the foremen and labor relations has been on the increase over the last year. The men who stand up for their rights (and ours) get it the worst.

Some workers have a defeatist attitude. "Why fight them (the company)?", they say, "You can't win anyway. The union ain't worth a damn; they never fight strongly for you." Too many feel this way and they have some good reasons to. But they are **WRONG**.

Right now we must fight just to stay where we are, so conditions don't get any worse. We cannot just sit back and "take it" when the company increases the work, speeds up the line, endangers our health and safety and ignores our contractual and human rights. And if we fight sometimes we will win.

For example, a number of weeks ago there was a fire on the night shift in paint. The men in body and paint were told that instead of having lunch at 8 they would have to work till 10. Anger and discontent were felt by most all and there was a lot of talk about what should be done. One of the men went to try and reach the committeeman. This man was later charged by labor relations with instigating a walkout and other "crimes." He was suspended pending a full hearing.

When his fellow workers heard about it, they knew that it could also happen to them. He had only stood up for the rights of all

workers and at most expressed his freedom of speech guaranteed by the Constitution. So they got up a petition saying that this man "was suspended unjustly." And in short time over 30 of his brother line workers signed it, although some were fearful and doubtful.

At the hearing, the company could not produce the witnesses it claimed, but the man had those who signed behind him. He **WON**. Not only was he allowed to go back to work, but he was also paid for the time he was suspended.

When we make "An Injury To One An Injury To All" our motto, and fight alongside our brothers, even the union can be made to fight stronger in our defense. **WE CAN WIN.**

FIGHT, FAIL, FIGHT ON TO VICTORY!

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ant. In order for you to come back to work you need a doctor's note. Now if the man was out for a different reason he is supposed to get a note. You just don't get any. You go back to work and get suspended for as long as they want. If you're a man with a large family, what position will this put you in?

LABOR DAYS IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

August 21, 1831 -- Nat Turner's slave revolt shakes the entire Southern slaveowning class.

August 23, 1927 - Sacco and Vanzetti, Italian American workmen, executed in Massachusetts for their strike activities and political beliefs. Their execution was, in the words of Supreme Ct. Justice Felix Frankfurter, "part of the conclusive effort between the DIA and the Dept. of Justice to rid the country of these Italians because of their red activities." The innocent Sacco wrote to his daughter from death row "It was the greatest treasure and sweetness of my struggling life that I could have lived with you and your brother Dante and your mother in a neat little farm, and learn all your sincere words and tender affection...The same I have wished to see for other poor girls and their brothers, happy for their mothers and fathers as I have dreamed for us - but it was not so and the nightmare of the lower classes saddened very badly your father's soul...but in spite of all, the free spirit of your father's faith still survives." Protests at their electrocution were turned into "riots" by club-swinging police. Protest strikes (like the miners strikes in W.Virginia and Colorado) met with bloody repression and murder... but also led to a great victory in the state-wide Colorado mine strike against the Rockefeller Interests. Sacco and

Vanzetti were killed because they were foreign-born, they spoke little English, they organized to aid strikers in N.Y. and Mass, and they agitated in opposition to World War I - because they believed this was a businessman's war to carve the world up into economic empires.

Sept. 3, 1833 -- Frederick Douglass escapes from his Maryland slavemaster, dedicating his life to the struggle of his people and of all working men and women, for the ballot and for full economic and political equality. In 1871, speaking of the conditions of workers, white and Black, after the Civil War, he said: "The Old System of FACTORY LABOR is but another remnant of the bad old times (SLAVERY) when the laborer himself was considered hardly worth as much as the machine he worked: a thing to be used to its utmost capacity, not fit for instruction and improvement." One hundred years later, 1971, this system still exists!! No wonder we hear Ferd Mahwah called the "PLANT-ation" by many black workers.

Sept. 22, 1919 -- GREAT STEEL STRIKE, 365,000 steelworkers in 50 cities go out to gain shorter workday and decent living wage. They worked 12 hour day, 6 day week for \$34. 22 strikers were killed, 18 in Gary, Indiana by U.S. Army called in to crush the strike after 3½ months.

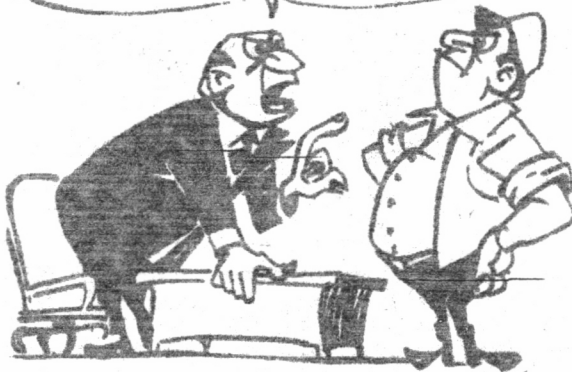
YOU ARE THE MOST OBNOXIOUS,
MEAN, DISAGREEABLE,



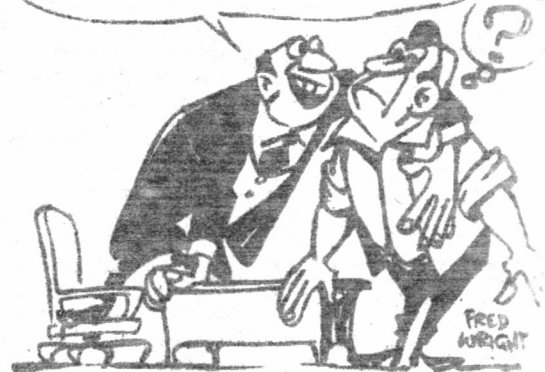
UNCOUTH, BAD-TEMPERED,
FOUL-MOUTHED IMBECILE...



WE HAVE EVER EMPLOYED...HOW WOULD



YOU LIKE TO BE A FOREMAN?



The pressure on? They could be playing BOSS BASEBALL. What's Boss Baseball? When Jim Boss wants the foreman to put the pressure on, he makes a chart of all the foremen's names in a department on it and after each name is three boxes. If a single job goes through the foreman's section uncompleted the foreman gets a strike. Three strikes and you're out. The foreman goes right back on the line that same night.

MANAGEMENT: STEP UP OR STEP DOWN

Dick, who used to be a Ford Motor Co. slave for 10 years, made it to Labor Relations is now in hiring and firing. He can't be doing too well, if he needs a part time job as bartender at the 400. He still is a slave for Ford, even though he wears a white shirt.

COMPANY MAN



BROWN NOSE

(IMAGE)

IT'S NOT WHO YOU KNOW IT'S WHO YOU BLOW

I WORK BEFORE THE SHIF STARTS

EMERGENCY



FOREMAN

S-O-S

IS IT A JOB FOR MAINTAINANCE? LABOR REL? STANDARDS?



THIS IS A JOB FOR COMPANY MAN



'COMPANY MAN' DOES THE JOB OF 4 MEN - (FOR 5 MINUTES) BUT CUT HOSE, SCREWS UNDER FEET, DEFECTIVE TOOLS MYSTERIOUSLY DEFEAT HIM

I MAY BE A FOREMAN SOMEDAY



BOTH COMPANY MAN + EXTRA WORK REMOVED



'FORD' MEAT WAGON



UNITY



DEFEATS COMPANYMAN ONCE AGAIN